

2017 Annual Report





WEST LAFAYETTE POLICE DEPARTMENT

711 WEST NAVAJO STREET • WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA 47906
MAIN PHONE: 765-775-5200 • FAX: 765-775-5228

January 18, 2018

Honorable John R. Dennis
Mayor, City of West Lafayette, Indiana

Mayor Dennis,

Attached to this letter is the Annual Report of the Police Department of the City of West Lafayette for the calendar year of 2017. This report, compiled by our Records Division, follows the guidelines established by the United States Department of Justice.

In 2017, the department received **31,489 calls for service, an increase of 896 (3%)** over the previous year. This was the second consecutive year the department topped 30,000 calls for service. **Police calls for service have increased steadily each year over the past 10 years, rising 77% since 2008 (17,762).**

The number of **criminal arrests increased 7%** in 2017 (2,149) compared to 2016 (2,003) and juvenile arrests decreased 15% (40) compared to 2016 (47). A continued focus on DUI enforcement in 2017 resulted in a **7% increase in Operating While Intoxicated arrests (179)** coupled with a 14% increase in 2016 (168).

Public safety is priority one for the WLPD. In 2017, the City of West Lafayette again had **no homicides for the eighth consecutive year and no arsons for the seventh consecutive year**. Other FBI Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) violent crime offences for 2017 include a decrease in rape incidents by 18% (9), a decrease in robbery by 40% (6) and a decrease in aggravated assaults by 3% (36). Other UCR property crime offences include **burglary down 31% (49)**, no change in auto theft (21) and larceny up 10% (397). The WLPD investigated over 5,000 cases for the third consecutive year in 2017 (5,278), down 1% over the previous year. The most current FBI UCR statistics confirm that West Lafayette continues to have one of the lowest combined rates of violent crime and property crime of any city in Indiana and of any Big Ten University Town. **Purdue University/West Lafayette was listed #14 in the Top 100 Safest Colleges in America 2017** as compiled by Alarms.org, based on FBI UCR crime data.

The Neighborhood Resource Team (NRT) and uniformed police officers continue to work closely together to address quality of life issues in our neighborhoods. The NRT responded to 1,968 calls for service in 2017, down 16%, and issued 15,149 parking tickets, up 12% over last year. While animal control complaints were up 20% (251), animals taken to the shelter were down 14% (49) in 2017.

In 2017, WLPD issued new, state-of-the-art body cameras to every officer on the department. The new 'smart-cameras' use a cell phone based platform that interacts with officers' squad cars and dash cameras to deliver GPS location of every officer, automatic camera activation, wireless video download to the cloud and officer safety features such as officer down recognition and gunshot alerts to dispatch. As one of the first agencies in our state to adopt body cameras in 2013, WLPD continues to be progressive by increasing accountability and transparency via law enforcement technology.

In closing, a culmination of 18 months of in-depth work was recognized in 2017 when the Indiana Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission (ILEAC) certified the WLPD as an **Accredited Indiana Law Enforcement Agency**. The state accreditation certifies that WLPD is operating under the best of Professional Law Enforcement practices and standards for the delivery of public safety services. In July, an outside auditor conducted an objective internal and external review of newly adopted WLPD policies and procedures to ensure professional standards are in place and followed to Statewide Standards of police practices. The WLPD is one of twelve law enforcement agencies in Indiana to receive accreditation from ILEAC.

Respectfully submitted,



Jason Dombkowski
Chief of Police

2017 POLICE ROSTER

Chief of Police	Jason L. Dombkowski	January 24, 1994
Deputy Chief	Troy W. Harris	March 9, 1998
Capt. of Special Services	Michael D. Francis	December 14, 1985
*Capt. of Patrol	Gary L. Sparger	June 3, 1989
Capt. of Patrol	David A. VanVactor	August 12, 1996
*Capt. of Special Services	John D. Watson	January 29, 2003
Lt. of Patrol	David E. Lord	October 30, 2000
Lt. of Patrol	Arthur A. Choate	November 20, 2000
Lt. of Patrol	Kevin A. Flynn	January 3, 1995
Lt. of Patrol	Jonathan M. Eager	June 27, 2005
*Sgt. of Detectives	Matthew S. Coddington	January 1, 1985
Sgt. of Patrol	Jason H. Philhower	March 18, 1996
Sgt. of Detectives	Troy M. Greene	November 20, 2006
Sgt. of Patrol	Stason L. Wiete	September 15, 2003
Sgt. of Patrol	Michael L. Brewer	June 7, 2004
Sgt. of Patrol	Adam S. Ferguson	January 29, 2001
*Sgt. of Patrol	Aron M. Thompson	May 10, 2012
*Sgt. of Patrol	David S. Smith	September 4, 2001
Officer 1 st Class	Janet A. Winslow	March 13, 1982
Officer 1 st Class	Michael R. Max	April 26, 1986
Officer 1 st Class	Mark A. Ridge	May 14, 1988
Officer 1 st Class	Marsha A. Miller	May 28, 1988

Officer 1 st Class	Kevin J. Coomey	January 1, 1990
Detective	Jeffrey J. Dunscomb	April 20, 1991
Detective	Fredrick N. Townsend	February 13, 1995
Detective	Gary C. Ward	March 23, 1998
Officer 1 st Class	Jeff A. Kirby	September 14, 1998
Officer 1 st Class	William J. Dearing	October 4, 1999
Officer 1 st Class	Jeffrey D. Decker	January 28, 2002
Officer 1 st Class	Marcus D. Slifer	July 15, 2002
Officer 1 st Class	Donald S. Greenwood	November 8, 2004
Officer 1 st Class	Chad E. Kendricks	August 22, 2005
Officer 1 st Class	James M. Spray	November 20, 2006
Detective	Jonathan T. Morgan	September 4, 2007
Officer 1 st Class	Adam S. Miller	January 7, 2008
Officer 1 st Class	Nathaniel E. Biddle	October 11, 2010
Officer 1 st Class	Brandon J. Bonnell	September 17, 2012
Officer 1 st Class	Jordan D. Glick	September 22, 2014
Officer 1 st Class	Elizabeth T. Romstadt	October 29, 2014
Officer 1 st Class	Octavio D. Gaeta	October 29, 2014
Officer 1 st Class	Uriah H. Crawford	June 22, 2015
Officer 1 st Class	Quentin A. Phelps	June 22, 2015
Officer 1 st Class	Sanford E. Swanson, Jr.	March 1, 2016
Officer 2 nd Class	FN Lutz III	March 1, 2016
Officer 2 nd Class	Christopher L. Jewell	March 1, 2016

Officer 2 nd Class	Corey M. Frain	October 3, 2016
Officer 2 nd Class	Drew J. Adams	October 3, 2016
*Prob. Police Officer	Austin H. Moore	June 12, 2017
*Prob. Police Officer	Austin C. Ames	June 12, 2017
*Prob. Police Officer	Kyle T. Goodman	June 12, 2017
*Prob. Police Officer	Brian W. Danosky	June 12, 2017
*Prob. Police Officer	David R. Vido	September 18, 2017
Patrol Dispatcher	David R. Stoike	April 30, 2001
Patrol Dispatcher	Kimberly A. Hines	December 20, 2003
*Comm. Center Supervisor	Jason A. Timmons	February 21, 2004
*Asst. Comm. Supervisor	David H. Payne	May 10, 2011
Patrol Dispatcher	Nathaniel J. Foster	October 10, 2012
Patrol Dispatcher	Jamie B. Hamilton	May 29, 2014
Patrol Dispatcher	Anna K. Saylor	July 8, 2014
Patrol Dispatcher	Scott M. Fohr	November 3, 2014
Patrol Dispatcher	Brenten M. Jenks	July 1, 2016
*Patrol Dispatcher	Liliana Munoz	June 12, 2017
Patrol Dispatcher/PT	Samuel P. Smith	October 15, 2013
Patrol Dispatcher/PT	Shawn M. Newman	May 20, 2014
Code Enforce Supervisor	Rick L. Walker	July 31, 2009
Code Enforce Officer	Jeffrey P. Ray	February 22, 2011
*Code Enforce Officer	Matthew Coddington	March 21, 2017
Parking Control Officer	Jerry D. Burk	January 17, 2001

Parking Control Officer	Mark A. Gosney	August 29, 2014
Parking Control Officer/PT	Larry G. Grant	March 11, 2009
Maintenance Technician	Jeffrey D. Martin	June 16, 1997
Office Manager	Tamra K. Holder	May 15, 1979
Systems Manager	Vickie J. Denson	February 22, 1988
*Records Clerk	Karla A. Hiser	January 11, 2016
*Records Clerk	Chrissa D. Yates	August 8, 2017
Property/Evidence Mgr.	Cynthia A. Marion	August 10, 2015
Janitorial Services/PT	Wilma J. Mills	March 16, 1994
Crossing Guard	Letitia Sietsma	November 1994
Crossing Guard	Kathryn Mauch	August 1995
Crossing Guard	Kathy Jones	August 1999
Crossing Guard	Vicki Burch	February 1999
Crossing Guard	Debra Foster	January 2008
Crossing Guard	Kimberly Ridge	August 2010
Crossing Guard	Lisa Sinha	April 2012
Crossing Guard	Jeanette Bennett	August 12, 2014
Department Chaplin	Bill Murdock	October 2003
Department Chaplin	Will Miller	October 2003
Department Chaplin	Reggie Alderman	February 2014

Total strength of the Department as of December 31, 2017:

50 Officers
34 Civilians

Appointments:

Matthew Coddington	March 21, 2017	Code Enforcement Officer
Austin H. Moore	June 12, 2017	Police Officer
Austin C. Ames	June 12, 2017	Police Officer
Kyle T. Goodman	June 12, 2017	Police Officer
Brian W. Danosky	June 12, 2017	Police Officer
Liliana Munoz	June 12, 2017	Patrol Dispatcher
Chrissa D. Yates	August 8, 2017	Records Clerk
David R. Vido	September 18, 2017	Police Officer

Resigned:

Karla A. Hiser	May 26, 2017
Liliana Munoz	September 10, 2017

Retired:

Matthew Coddington	February 17, 2017
Gary L. Sparger	June 5, 2017

Promotions:

John D. Watson	June 16, 2017	Lt. of Patrol to Capt. of Special Services
Aron M. Thompson	March 7, 2017	Patrol Officer to Sgt. of Patrol
David S Smith	August 17, 2017	Patrol Officer to Sgt. of Patrol
Jason A. Timmons	March 1, 2017	Patrol Dispatcher to Comm. Center Supervisor
David H. Payne	March 8, 2017	Patrol Dispatcher to Asst. Comm. Supervisor

*Denotes appointments, resignations, terminations, retirements and promotions

WEST LAFAYETTE POLICE DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY REPORT

	2016	2017	Percentage
Calls for Service	30593	31489	3% Up
Cases Investigated	5354	5278	1% Down

UCR Part 1 Offenses:

Homicide	0	0	No Change
Rape	11	9	18% Down
Robbery	10	6	40% Down
Aggravated Assaults	37	36	3% Down
Burglary	71	49	31% Down
Arson	0	0	No Change
Auto Theft	21	21	No Change
Larceny	361	397	10% Up

Auto Crashes:

Total	1193	1235	4% Up
Property Damage	730	721	8% Down
Personal Injury	164	169	3% Up
Fatal Crashes	0	2	200% Up

Arrests:

Criminal	2003	2149	7% Up
Juvenile	47	40	15% Down

Alcohol Arrests:

Operating While Intoxicated	168	179	7% Up
Public Intoxication	121	76	37% Down
Minor In Possession of Alcohol	44	31	30% Down
Total Alcohol Arrests	333	286	14% Down

	2016	2017	Percentage
UCR Property			
Property Stolen	\$928867	\$410821	56% Down
Property Recovered	\$273658	\$83834	69% Down
Detective Division			
Cases Worked	311	235	24% Down
Cases Cleared/Closed	264	221	
Traffic Enforcement			
Citations	1956	1340	31% Down
Warnings	12132	11873	2% Down
Total:	14088	13213	6% Down
Noise Ordinance Enforcement			
Citations	15	5	67% Down
Warnings	114	90	21% Down
Total:	129	95	26% Down
Total Parking Tickets	13840	15490	12% Up
Total Parking Fines Collected	\$532845	\$595708	12% Up

**CASES REPORTED
2017**

<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>CLASSIFICATION</u>	<u>COUNT</u>
Major Cases Investigated	Aggravated Assaults	36
	Arson	0
	Burglary/Business	5
	Burglary/Residence	44
	Homicide/Manslaughter	0
	Homicide/Murder	0
	Kidnapping	0
	Larceny	397
	Other Assaults	95
	Murder/Attempted	0
	Rape/Attempted	0
	Rape/By Force	9
	Robbery	6
	Vehicle Theft	21
	Total Major Cases:	613
Other Cases Reported	24 Hour Ordinance	38
	Accidents/All Reported	1235
	Accumulation of Garbage	1
	Alarms	228
	Assist Other Agency	101
	Canine Deployment	167
	City Noise Ord Violation	82
	City/County Ord & State Statute	281
	Contempt of Court	28
	Cruelty to Animals	2
	Damaged Property	37
	Death/Other than Homicide	8
	Demented/Mental	17
	Department Information	149
	Depositing Rubbish/Trash	2
	Disorderly Conduct	2
	Disturbance/Arguments/Fights	24
	Dogs/Other Animals	32
	Domestic Disturbance	81
	Driving While Suspended	302
	Drug Abuse Violations	253
	Drunkeness/Public Intoxication	40

<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>CLASSIFICATION</u>	<u>COUNT</u>
Other Cases Reported	Embezzlement	1
	False Informing/Reporting	7
	Fire/Non-arson	2
	Forgery/Counterfeiting	14
	Fraud	137
	Fugitive/Wanted On Warrant	2
	Grass Height	10
	Harassment	47
	Ill/Injured Person	81
	Illegal Discharge of Fireworks	1
	Indecent/Public Exposure	4
	Liquor Law Violations	7
	Misc Traffic Violation	36
	Missing/Lost Person	12
	Offense Against Family/Child	18
	Operating While Intoxicated	177
	Parking/Private Property	30
	Presence of Poisonous Weeds	4
	Property Found	113
	Property Lost	8
	Reckless Driving	3
	Residential Entry	20
	Resisting Law Enforcement	22
	Runaway	4
	Sex Offense	5
	Stalking	2
	Stolen Property: Rec/Poss/Buy	1
	Suicide/Attempts/Threats of	83
	Suspicious Incident/Persons	107
	Telephone Harassment	2
	Threats/Intimidation	32
	Tow-Ins	7
	Trespass	160
	Vagrancy	1
	Vandalism/Graffiti	4
	Vandalism/Mischief	135
	Weapon Violation	4
	Well Being Check	32
	Wheel Lock	220
	Total Other Cases:	4665
	Total Cases:	5278

CRIMINAL ARRESTS
2017

Assisted a Criminal	1
Attempted Auto Theft	1
Attempted Theft	2
Auto Theft	6
Battery	31
Body Attachment	3
Burglary	2
Carry a Handgun w/o a License	9
Conspiracy to Commit Armed Robbery	1
Conspiracy to Commit Forgery	1
Conspiracy to Commit Theft	2
Corrupt Business Influence – Employee/Associated	2
Counterfeiting	3
Criminal Confinement	1
Criminal Conversion	5
Criminal Mischief	5
Criminal Recklessness with a Deadly Weapon	2
Criminal Recklessness with Vehicle	3
Dealing in Cocaine	5
Dealing Controlled Substance	1
Dealing in Hashish	1

Dealing Marijuana	11
Dealing Methamphetamine	1
Dealing Narcotic Drugs	2
Disarming Law Enforcement Officer	1
Disorderly Conduct	22
Domestic Battery	22
Driving While Suspended	301
False Informing	32
False Reporting	2
Forgery	8
Fraud	19
Fugitive from Justice	2
Habitual Traffic Violator	25
Identity Deception	7
Interfere with Reporting a Crime	2
Intimidation	5
Invasion of Privacy	6
Kidnapping	1
Leaving the Scene/Crash	43
Maintaining Common Nuisance	9
Minor In Possession/Consumption of Alcohol	26
Neglect of a Dependent	3
Never Receiving a License	145

Obstruction of Justice	8
Obstruction Traffic	1
Obtaining Legend Drugs by Fraud	2
Operating without Financial Responsibility	54
Operating While Intoxicated	179
Petition to Revoke Probation	1
Possession of Cocaine	19
Possession of Controlled Substance	28
Possession of a False Government Identification	1
Possession of Hashish	1
Possession of Legend Drugs	7
Possession of Marijuana	195
Possession of Paraphernalia	147
Possession of Salvia/Synthetic Cannabinoid	15
Possession of Methamphetamine	25
Public Intoxication	76
Public Nudity	3
Receiving Stolen Property	5
Reckless Driving	4
Refuse to Identify Self	2
Residential Entry	12
Resisting Law Enforcement	43
Robbery	3

Sexual Battery	1
Sexual Misconduct with a Minor	1
Theft	108
Trespass	35
Unlawful Entry of a Motor Vehicle	1
Unlawful Possession of a Firearm	1
Unlawful Possession of Syringe	19
Visiting Common Nuisance	2
Wanted on Warrant	368
Total	2149

**JUVENILE ARRESTS
2017**

Auto Theft	2
Carrying a Handgun w/o a License	1
Criminal Conversion	1
Criminal Trespass	1
Disobedience	1
Domestic Battery	1
Intimidation	2
Leaving Home without Permission of Parent/Guardian	2
Minor in Possession/Consumption of Alcohol	5
Never Receiving a License	4
Possession of a Firearm	1
Possession of Marijuana	6
Possession of Paraphernalia	3
Resisting Law Enforcement	2
Theft	6
Truancy	1
Violation Resale/Transfer/Transport of Handgun	1
Total	40



WEST LAFAYETTE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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2017 Traffic Report

In 2017, the West Lafayette Police Department investigated a total of 1,235 automobile crashes, which is an increase from 2016 of 42 total crashes or 4%. Property damage crashes saw the largest increase as we recorded 17 more crashes for a 2% increase. Personal injury crashes were up slightly from 164 in 2016 to 169 in 2017. Alcohol related crashes were also up in 2017 from 23 to 29, a 26% increase from 2016. There were 2 fatal crashes investigated in 2017.

2017 was a busy year for the West Lafayette Police Department's Traffic Unit. The Traffic Unit is comprised of (1) Sergeant and (1) patrolman primarily assigned to motorcycle patrol to focus solely on traffic related issues. Some of the areas of concentration are school zone enforcement, construction zones, traffic crashes, community related traffic concerns, and special events. This unit conducted 1232 traffic stops in the areas noted above. This unit has been instrumental in working with our engineering department and road contractors to ensure the safety of all motorists and pedestrians.

The department participated in the Operation Pull Over Awareness Program, which is funded by the Governor's Council on Impaired and Dangerous Driving. Officers worked a total of 224.5 hours of extra patrol focusing enforcement in the area of intoxicated drivers and seatbelt awareness. While working these extra hours, officers made 331 traffic stops that resulted in 31 arrests for motorists on a variety of charges. As a department in 2017, a total of 179 arrests were made for Operating While Intoxicated, which is an increase of 11 from 2016.

The department continued its enforcement efforts in the school zones throughout the city during the year. This increased effort resulted in 1,088 traffic stops for violations related to school zone safety. The department again worked to increase education and awareness of bicycle safety issues in the Village throughout the summer.

2017 brought about many challenges and successes as numerous construction and road improvement projects were implemented. In 2017 we began the massive State Street Project. During this project we were focused on traffic safety issues, provided safe travel corridors throughout the city for our motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians alike. Our efforts and coordination with the other City department heads helped make this project such a success and we look forward to more projects and improvements as we head into 2018.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Troy Harris".

Troy Harris
Deputy Chief

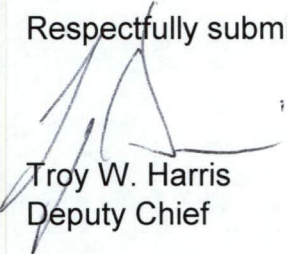
TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENT DIVISION

YEAR END REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2017

CRASH COMPARISON FOR 2016 & 2017 (Year to Date Figures)

	2016	2017	UP	DOWN	%
TOTAL	1193	1235	42		4%
PD UNDER 1,000.00	150	176	26		17%
PROPERTY DAMAGE	730	721		9	1%
PERSONAL INJURY	164	169	5		3%
PERSONS INJURED	209	210	1		0%
FATALITY	0	2	2		200%
PERSONS KILLED	0	4	4		400%
ALCOHOL RELATED	23	29	6		26%

Respectfully submitted,



Troy W. Harris
Deputy Chief

NOTE: A total of one hundred sixty-seven Hit & Run crashes for the year.

2017 Grant Activity

OPO Grant: 121 total hours worked

DUI Grant: 103.5 total hours worked

TOTAL HOURS WORKED: 224.5

OPO GRANT ACTIVITY

Seatbelt Tickets Issued: 99

Arrests: 14 (5 of these for DUI)

Total Traffic Violations: 219

DUI GRANT ACTIVITY

Seatbelt Tickets Issued: 1

Arrests: 17 (11 of these for DUI)

Total Traffic Violations: 112

WLPD conducted one sobriety check point during the year.

Total DUI arrests for WLPD during 2017: 179



Neighborhood Resource Team year-year comparison

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	
Parking Tickets Issued	13,542	15,149	11.87%
Parking Ticket Revenue	\$537,552.00	\$598,043.00	11.25%
Animal Control Complaints	210	251	19.52%
Animals to Shelter	57	49	-14.04%
Total Calls for Service	2,340	1,968	-15.90%